

HOUSE No. 2712

By Mr. Toomey of Cambridge, petition of Timothy J. Toomey, Jr., and others for legislation to establish a program of community based health and sexuality education services within the Department of Public Health. Public Health.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PETITION OF:

Timothy J. Toomey, Jr.	Patricia A. Haddad
Kathi-Anne Reinstein	Robert K. Coughlin
Patricia D. Jehlen	Carl M. Sciortino, Jr.
Byron Rushing	Elizabeth A. Malia
Richard T. Moore	Kathleen M. Teahan
Gloria L. Fox	

In the Year Two Thousand and Five.

AN ACT TO PROMOTE HEALTHY BEHAVIORS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

- 1 Chapter 111 of the General Laws is hereby amended by
- 2 inserting after section 24J, the following section:—
- 3 Section 24K. The department shall establish a program of com-
- 4 munity based health and sexuality education services provided by
- 5 comprehensive family planning agencies. Said program shall be
- 6 designed to promote healthy behaviors among adolescents, par-
- 7 ents and/or guardians by providing science based health informa-
- 8 tion and education. Community based health education staff shall
- 9 promote healthy behaviors within the community by providing
- 10 specialized education and outreach to targeted high risk popula-
- 11 tions, parents and guardians and to staff of community based
- 12 agencies providing services to young people. Said specialized
- 13 education and outreach program shall include efforts to reduce
- 14 unintended pregnancy; promote abstinence in order to delay ado-
- 15 lescent sexual activity; increase parental ability to communicate

- 16 with their children about healthy sexuality; and reduce unhealthy
17 risk taking behavior among all individuals.
18 For the purposes of the section, comprehensive family planning
19 agencies shall be defined pursuant to section 24E of this chapter.